

New-York Daily Tribune

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1854.

Advertisements for the Weekly Tribune of this week must be inserted in today's issue.

CONGRESS, YESTERDAY.

SENATE, DEC. 19.—Mr. Cass gave notice of his intention to move the adoption of Mr. Underwood's resolution of last session, in regard to Religious Liberty for Americans in Europe. Mr. Cass highly commended the sentiment in regard to religious liberty. Mr. Brodhead strongly supported the resolution to send relief to Dr. Kane's Expedition. The Indian Appropriation and Military Academy bills from the House were referred. The Invalid Pension bill was passed, but reconsidered, and postponed for a day. A Joint Committee of the two Houses, to adjudge private claims, was proposed in place of the House bill for a Board of Commissioners. Adjourned.

HOUSE, DEC. 19.—The Naval and Fortification Appropriation bills were reported from the Ways and Means Committee, and referred. The House then took up business relating to the District of Columbia. On a bill to establish Houses of Refuge or Correction, Mr. Giddings tried to get an amendment that no person should be imprisoned except for crime or suspicion, but as this would have prevented the locking up of free negroes and selling them into slavery to pay their jail fees, the Nebraska majority voted it down. There was a long debate on suppressing bank notes of small denomination in the District, but the House did not get to a vote before adjournment.

The weather for two days has been extremely cold, last night especially being a fair specimen of a Labrador winter. There is no snow in this neighborhood, and thus far no ice in the river; but two or three days as yesterday will bridge the Hudson nearly down to the City. The telegraph reports very cold weather at the East and North.

The Whig Primary Meetings for Committee-men for 1855 were fully attended yesterday morning, and resulted in the choice of Progressive Whigs and supporters of Myron H. Clark in every Ward in the City but one, (the 11th), where, it is said, a Silver Gray ticket was elected over the Know-Nothings. The provisions of the Whig General Committee, prescribing the qualifications of voters, were very generally enforced by the inspectors appointed by the Ward Committees.

The Board of Aldermen, last night, met for the purpose of appointing Clerks for the new Police and Civil Courts; but some of the members, finding that the new officers would not be of their political stripe, left the room, and the Board adjourned for want of a quorum.

The principal business of importance transacted in the Board of Councilmen last evening was the proposition of Councilman Kennedy, to appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the relief of the poor during the ensuing winter. Mr. K. in a brief speech, alluded to the prospect of distress among the laboring classes, arising from want of employment, and the usefulness of the "Association for meliorating the condition of the Poor."

Last year, the society, he said, had paid out over \$30,000 to the poor, but this year the subscriptions to the fund of the society fell short. In conclusion he offered a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, directing the Controller to draw his warrant for the sum of \$10,000 in favor of the President of the above mentioned Association; said amount to be appropriated for the purposes of the society.

At the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Almshouse yesterday, a report was read in explanation and answer to the statements of the Commissioners of Emigration, recently published. We print it in another column.

Among our local items of interest this morning will be found a charge against Edward Connolly of attempting to kill his wife; the trial of Patrick Callaghan, charged with causing the death of George W. Barrett; a case of stabbing at a rum-shop in Ann-st.; the inquest upon John O'Neill, killed at a rum shop in Greenwich-st.; and several heavy robberies.

The case of Heilbuth, charged with smuggling diamonds, was closed yesterday, with a verdict of guilty. The punishment is a fine not exceeding \$5,000, and imprisonment not more than two years, at the discretion of the Court.

A case of some interest was decided yesterday in the Marine Court. The proprietor of the Kings County Hotel was arrested last summer, we believe, by Mayor Wall, of Williamsburgh, and put in prison for keeping his bar-room open for the sale of liquor on Sundays, contrary to law. He brought suit against Mr. Wall in his private capacity, for false imprisonment. After a hearing, the case was dismissed.

THE LAST PLOT OF THE ENEMY.
The Union does not see fit to reply to the queries we addressed to it some days since, respecting the notorious enterprise of which Col. Kinney is to be the chief engineer, in Central America. We are disappointed, for we hoped to learn how the rescinded and exploded Maquito grants are to be made valid over territory never belonging to the grantor; how the United States are to sanction the violent occupation of the country of three friendly republics; and how we are to plant a colony, and establish a new and independent State in Central America without violating the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. On none of these points does the organ of the Administration vouchsafe any light; but instead of this, The Union copies conspicuously from The Boston Post, a tremendous puff of this new humbug, of which the following is a portion:

"The results of this colonization are plain and inevitable. Commencing at the port of San Juan del Norte, (which the English call Greytown,) and there strengthening itself for expansion, the colony will soon become master of the route to the Pacific, and with that line for the basis of its operations, will stretch southward at least far enough to include the Isthmus of Panama, and northward, either with or without the consent of the intermediate States, until the whole of North America lying south of the United States shall become part and parcel of this nation."

In this the piratical purposes of the planners of this undertaking are announced with a degree of coolness quite in keeping with the present state of the weather. They tell us that they design first to conquer and annihilate Nicaragua; then to swallow Costa Rica and northern New-Grenada on the one hand, and Honduras, Guatemala, San Salvador and Mexico on the other. With regard to Mexico and the three northern States of Central America, it will be some time before the scheme is ripe, and what is said of them may, for the present, be set down as purely prospective; but there can be no doubt that Nicaragua is to be struck down, and her route across

the Continent seized by Col. Kinney's filibusters with the least possible delay. This, we repeat, made in the leading Administration journal of New-England, and repeated with no mark of dissent by The Union, indicates what is the position of the Executive toward this nefarious scheme. It also throws a flood of light on the reasons why Gen. Pierce and Mr. May were reluctant to cause the bombardment of San Juan. It is not that the people of that place were hostile to the managers of the so-called Accessory Transit Company, and that efforts had been made in vain by the Company to settle the difference so as to bring the town under their control. Now, this Company is managed by the same persons who have got up what is called the Land and Mining Company, under whose auspices Col. Kinney is to undertake his campaign, and carry out the night projects suggested in the above extract. The two companies are essentially the same, and as one occupies and subjugates the country, the other becomes relieved from the necessity of sharing the profits of the transit with the Government of Nicaragua, and from accountability to a body of disliked, despised Nicaraguan officials. No doubt the Transit Company's stock will rise to an unprecedented value in the market as soon as it becomes the exclusive and independent possessor of the route. This is equally necessary to the success of the project; and for both, the control of San Juan is indispensable. But this could not be obtained so long as the recent inhabitants of the place were there in any number, and accordingly advantage was taken of the Boardland affair to destroy their houses and property. This has compelled most of them to leave, which makes room for the new Republic to "commence at San Juan del Norte," its stronghold itself for expansion, become master of the route to the Pacific, and make that line the base of its future operations. In order that all this might be done, that the speculators might make fat profits in Wall-st., and that Col. Kinney might become famous as a modern copy of the ancient conquerors of Central America, San Juan was bombarded and destroyed, and this nation covered with ineffable disgrace. This explanation indicated as it is by the articles of The Post and The Union, is the first that has thrown any clear light on the secret motives of that shameful outrage. It is worthily followed up by this scheme to occupy a territory under these worthless and rescinded grants, by violence to overthrow the governments of friendly republics, and for cause, as the conclusion of the whole, to add an indefinite number of slave States to the Union. We denounce the undertaking as a fraud on the people of this country, and a gigantic wrong against neighboring nations with which we are at peace. Let the Press be heard against it, and let Congress act before it is too late.

COAL.

We have given the full hospitality of our columns to Mr. Walbridge's speech in reference to the duties on coal, and presume that it has been quite generally perused by our readers, who can judge as to the value of his argument and his policy. His speech seems to contain one striking omission. He tells us much of our cotton mills, furnaces, machine-shops, and steamships, and of the quantity of fuel they consume, but he says nothing of the fact that these factories, furnaces, and ships owe their existence to the power of obtaining cheap fuel that has been furnished by men who he now desires to place without range of protection. The quantity of coal sent to market this year has been between five and six millions of tons, or more than enough to furnish one freight to every vessel engaged in our foreign and domestic trade, and that quantity could not have been obtained from any other source, even if we had been willing to pay thrice the price we have paid for it. Such being the case, it would seem that the community are under some obligation to the people who have furnished them so cheaply with so much heat and power.

That the community has gained largely is certain; but what, on the other hand, has been gained by the men to whom they have been so much indebted? As yet, as we have before had occasion to show, little but loss to all concerned, as is shown in the fact that the Reading Railroad, Schuylkill Canal, Lehigh Company, and numerous other great works within and without the coal region, have paid little or nothing to their stockholders. The amount that has been expended in improvements, with a view to the supply of coal, has exceeded a hundred and fifty millions of dollars; and we have heard it estimated by those who are well informed, at a much higher figure. And the average yield, to those concerned, has fallen, as we believe, considerably short of common interest. Under these circumstances, the obligation would seem to have been much larger on the side of the coal consumers than on that of the coal producers.

But, as we are told, coal is higher than it has been in past years. So is food; so is lumber; so is iron; so is everything we use, and everything that is used by the men who mine coal and those who transport it to market; and it would seem scarcely possible that they should long continue to pay high prices for all the things they consume and accept low ones for what they produce. Carpenters, masons and people of all kinds have been claiming high wages because food was high, and the men who have had houses to build have found the cost fifty per cent. more than in past times; but they do not seem ever to have been disposed to charge the difficulty to account of the master builder, as it is now proposed to do with the master miner of coal.

But, as we are further told, our people are poor and are out of cash, and cannot afford to buy fuel—and for that reason we wish fuel to be cheap. What, however, is it that has deprived them of employment? It is not with the repeal of the tariff of 1842, with the consequent influx of goods from abroad that should be made at home, that has closed our factories and our machine shops, and that is driving our people to beggary when they would gladly work, and thereby earn means of supporting their families? Would not the re-enactment of that tariff reopen all our factories, and machine shops, and set every body again to work and give them the means of buying fuel and food? In regard to this, none of our readers can, we think, entertain a doubt. Instead of this, however, Mr. Walbridge calls upon the people who lately have been employed in factories and in the shops of all kinds about our cities, to unite in breaking down the coal men, with a view to try if fuel cannot be supplied at lower rates than are now required to be paid, thus distributing, as he seems to think, more equally, the ruin accomplished by British free trade.

Will the measure proposed, however, produce

the effect? To judge of the future, we may with advantage look to the past. Has the tariff of 1842 cheapened anything? Is iron any cheaper under low duties than it was under high ones? Certainly not. Is lead any cheaper? On the contrary, it is at double price. Is coal cheaper? On the contrary, it is dearer; and so it has been with most of our commodities that were protected by the tariff of 1842, and that are not protected by that of 1846. Is there, then, any reason for believing that a further step in that direction will tend to produce cheapness any more than have those we have already taken? We think not. We not only think, but we know, that protection has invariably tended to stimulate domestic competition, and to reduce prices, and such, we know, would at this moment be the effect of reappointing the system under which the nation so rapidly receded in the short period from 1842 to 1846.

The nation is now suffering under the unexampled drain of gold, a drain that is destined largely to be stimulated by the action of the Reciprocity Treaty, by which it is provided that foreign wheat shall be eaten by our people, and foreign coal consumed by them, where, hitherto, they have consumed domestic wheat and domestic coal. Under these circumstances, is it wise to do anything to augment the drain that now exists? We think not; and yet, such is the inevitable tendency of all the schemes now before Congress, of one at least, of which Mr. Walbridge is the earnest advocate. Should he succeed, the effect, as we believe, will be that of ultimately raising the price of coal, for it will tend to put a stop to all improvements in the mode of production tending to cheapen it. Common sense and honesty look therefore, as we think, in the same direction; and if our representatives permit themselves to be governed by either, instead of seeking to go farther in the direction of British free trade, they will, by retracing their steps and establishing adequate protection for cotton and woolen manufactures, iron men and machinists, enlarge the market for coal, and thus afford every inducement for so increasing the production as to enable our people to obtain both heat and power as cheaply as they did under the tariff of 1842.

THE CITY ADVERTISING.

The report of Mr. Controller Flagg upon the bids for the City Advertising, which we published yesterday, shows that in strict accordance with the resolution of the Common Council, the advertising must be given to The Post, Times, Sun, Staats-Zeitung and Demokrat. Of these journals the last two are published in the German language; they claim together a circulation of 17,900 copies in the City, and propose to receive for the work the sum of \$4,636.40. The aggregate circulation claimed by the other three accepted bidders is 61,182 copies, and the sum they demand is \$20,915.28. The Herald also made proposals, estimating its circulation in the City at 40,004, and offering a cheaper rate than either of the others, but, owing, we presume, to some informality in the bid, which is not stated by the Controller, it is not included in the award. The sum to be paid to the five journals to which the award is made is little more than double what the advertising of the past year has cost the City, while the number of copies circulated will be increased about 150 per cent. under the new system.

It certainly looks like an oversight to admit the German papers to compete for this business on the same terms as those published in the language of the country. If there had been three more of them, and all had offered lower rates than their competitors, we should have seen the Controller obliged to award them the advertising, and then only our German fellow-citizens would have enjoyed the pleasure of perusing the advertisements and official reports of the Corporation. We doubt whether there is any necessity for the publication of this interesting matter in German at all; but if it must be done, a single paper is certainly enough. It is quite ridiculous, and out of all proportion, to employ only three journals in the Anglo-Saxon and two in the Teutonic dialect. Besides, why pay them so much more than they ask for the job? No doubt the Staats-Zeitung or Demokrat would gladly do it at the rate of \$1,000 a year, as they have done hitherto, and what is the sense of giving them \$4,600?

In this respect, at least, the system seems to require revision before the awards are confirmed. We long since called the attention of the Common Council to the needlessness of regularly advertising in so many journals as five. It is true the present plan is a great deal better than the old one of hiding the advertisements in journals without circulation, but it involves an unnecessary charge upon the treasury. Either one of the three papers which claim a circulation of over 20,000 copies would, we think, be sufficient for every purpose. The City would thus have much greater publicity than ever without any increase of expense, perhaps even with a diminution in that respect, for, if the business were to be given to a single journal, the bids would be much lower than those now offered. This seems to us the best possible arrangement for all parties. People who wish to find the advertisements of the City will know in what paper to look for them, and the fact that they are not published elsewhere will render them, perhaps, somewhat less a bore to the general readers of the journal to whose lot they fall. We suggest, then, that before the contracts are made, the system should be changed, by excluding papers in foreign languages, and advertising in that journal whose regular daily circulation in the City is not less than 20,000 copies, which will do the work at the lowest price per 1,000 copies. In this way the advertisements will be published, and the Municipal Treasury will be subjected to no unnecessary burden in these hard times.

The Seventh Annual Meeting of the Ohio State Teachers' Association takes place on the 27th and 28th inst., at Cincinnati. Among the speakers for that occasion are the Rev. H. P. Tappan, D. D., formerly New-York, now Chancellor of the University of Michigan, and Mr. C. M. Cady, of this City.

The Hon. Hendrick B. Wright, who has been for some days confined to his room by severe illness, is improving, and may be expected to be abroad in a few days. Senator Adams has so far recovered from his late severe attack of illness as to be able to resume his seat in the Senate.

THE ZOUAVES.—The Zouaves are natives of the French provinces of Algiers, disciplined and exercised by French officers, and now forming part of the French contingent employed in the Crimea and the siege of Sevastopol. They hold exactly the same relation to the French army that the Sepoys in India do to the regular British troops.

PENNSYLVANIA.—A State Temperance Convention is to be held at Harrisburg, Jan. 17.

THE LATEST NEWS.

RECEIVED BY MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
The drafts registered in the Treasury Department, Register's Office, for the week ending the 16th inst., amount to the following sums:

Navy, \$120,463 78; Customs, \$88,198 38; Redemption of the Public Debt, \$256,430 41; Quarterly Salaries, \$67,000 22; Treasury, \$164,373 17; Interior, on Land, \$40,007 21; Interior, \$10,702 18; War, \$349,383 20—making a total of \$1,351,403 26.

SUPREME COURT.
WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
No. 6. Gray P. Webb, et al. vs. Polly Wetherhead. Error to Circuit Court, Middle District of Tennessee. Justice Grier delivered the opinion of the Court, affirming the judgment of the Circuit Court, with costs.

No. 3. Arthur, Nicholson & Co. vs. Jesse Hart. Error to Circuit Court, Eastern District of Louisiana. Justice Nelson delivered the opinion of the Court, reversing the judgment with costs, and remanding the case for further proceedings, in conformity with the law, justice, and opinion of the Supreme Court.

No. 2. Pierre Harrison, et al. vs. Joshua B. Brant. Appeal from the Circuit Court of Missouri. Chief Justice Taney delivered the opinion of the Court, dismissing the appeal, with costs.

No. 19. J. M. Lawrence, claimant of ship Hornet, appellant, vs. Charles McIntire. Argument was concluded by Mr. Cutting for appellants.

SELDEN, WITHERS & CO.'S DEED OF TRUST.
WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
Messrs. Selden, Withers & Co.'s deed of trust, with their statement of assets, has not been almost every body here, and the people and brokers are buying Exchange Bank notes at sixty cents on the dollar, being a decline of thirty cents since yesterday. More than two-thirds of a million of assets are believed to be worthless.

KNOW-NOTHING CONVENTION.
KINGSTON, N. Y., Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
A convention of Know-Nothings is in session here to-day, with a view of organizing the Order in the County. The attendance is not very large.

ADDRESS OF LORD ELGIN.
QUEBEC, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
The Provincial Parliament stands adjourned to the 23d of February.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon, Lord Elgin replied to the address of the two Houses; thanking them for the expression of their approbation and regard, and their statement of assets, but not being almost every body here, and the people and brokers are buying Exchange Bank notes at sixty cents on the dollar, being a decline of thirty cents since yesterday. More than two-thirds of a million of assets are believed to be worthless.

The employees of the Hudson River Railroad have been engaged to-day in striking out a track on the ice, and throwing water over it to strengthen it to enable teams to cross the river. It is supposed they will be able to do so before the end of the month.

The Syracuse Daily Journal says that Col. Vandenberg, of that city, is to be Judge Advocate General.

WIND N. W. Weather clear and pleasant. The thermometer at zero.

EASTPORT, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.—A. M.
The weather beautiful. Wind N. The thermometer at zero.

ALBANY, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.—A. M.
The weather here is very pleasant, although extremely cold.

BOSTON, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
The thermometer in this city, at 8 o'clock this morning, stood at eight degrees above zero. The weather is very clear.

ARREST FOR HEAVY FORGERIES.
PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
Augustus Batay was arrested here to-day charged with having committed extensive forgeries in Quebec. He was held to await a requisition under extradition act. Six hundred dollars in gold and large quantity of baggage were found with the prisoner at one of the principal hotels.

LAND-WARRANT FORGER CONVICTED.
NEW ORLEANS, Monday, Dec. 18, 1854.
W. H. Wilder, a lawyer of this city, and a prominent sympathizer with the Cuban filibusters, has been convicted of forging land-warrants.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.
WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
The locomotive Clearmont, attached to the passenger train, exploded near White River Junction, N. H. The engine was blown to atoms, and J. G. Moore, the engineer, and David Warner, the fireman, were badly injured. The explosion shook buildings to a distance of half a mile.

CONVICTION FOR MANSLAUGHTER.
WATERTOWN, N. Y., Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
Peter Mahon, who was indicted for murdering his wife in September last, was to-day convicted of manslaughter in the first degree. His sentence will be pronounced by Judge Hubbard to-morrow.

THE OHIO RIVER.
CINCINNATI, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
In the Ohio River there are but three and a half feet of water. The weather is extremely cold.

PROBABLE DISCOVERY OF ONE OF THE ARCHAIC LIFE-BOATS.
BOSTON, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.
The Advertiser, this morning, contradicts the failure of the search for the life-boat of the ship of the same name, which was reported yesterday.

From Halifax papers of the 12th, we learn that two men, from Southern Harbor, report having picked up a boat on the 16th ult., while on their way to Little Placentia, Newfoundland, and succeeded in getting her safe to Ram's Island. By their description she was a life-boat of iron, nine, complete in every particular, except an air-tight compartment. She was full of water, with an ash or lashed in the middle by a painter acting as a drag. She may prove one of the unfortunate steamer Arctic's boats.

The crew and passengers of the American ship Arctic, upwards of 120 in number, previously reported wrecked at Sable Island, were rescued from drowning by one of Francis's Life Boats, recently presented to this humane establishment by Miss Dix. The boat, with the life-saving apparatus, manned by the Island crew, had to be rowed twenty miles to the scene of the disaster. Two trips were sufficient to rescue all the people on the wreck.

The new ship King Lear, of two thousand tons, owned by Messrs. Seaborn & Taylor, of this city, in being launched this morning, before she could be stopped, went over and through the Navy Yard wall, where she now lies with two steamboats trying to get her off.

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relative to the arrest and imprisonment of the Rev. Jones King, an American citizen, residing in Greece.

Mr. BRODHEAD made an eloquent appeal in behalf of his resolution, for sending a planter to the Arctic sea in search of Dr. Kane, and it was passed.

Mr. LEITCH made a report from two Juries Committee, that the House bill regarding United States lands in Cincinnati passed. It was agreed by the bill passed.

Mr. BRODHEAD reported a bill in favor of the claims of Gen. John E. Wool, and recommended its passage.

Mr. BRODHEAD moved that so much of the President's Message as related to naval matters be referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs. Agreed to.

A bill making appropriations for the Indian Department, and another for the support of the Military Academy, came from the House and were referred to the Committee on Finance.

The Invalid Pension bill was considered and passed, but at the request of Mr. Fessenden was reconsidered, and postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. BROWN proposed a Joint Committee of the two Houses on the adjustment of private claims, as a substitute for the bill for a Board of Commissioners on that subject, which was specially referred yesterday.

Mr. BRODHEAD asked the Senate to allow the petition and memorial for judicial reform in the District of Columbia to be withdrawn for presentation in the House.

Mr. BADGER suggested that the request was announced and decided it should be postponed to to-morrow. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Dec. 19, 1854.

Mr. PHELPS, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the Naval service for the year ending June 30, 1855.

Mr. HOUSTON, from the same Committee, reported a bill making appropriations for fortifications and other works of defense, and the repair of barracks and quarters, for a like period.

Both bills were referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The House went into Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, on business pertaining to the District of Columbia.

Several bills were considered and laid aside, to be reported to the House, including the bill for additional powers to the Corporation of Washington for the election of all officers not now elective, and to establish Houses of Refuge, or Correction, and Police and Municipal Courts, &c.

While this was under consideration, Mr. GIDDINGS offered an amendment that no person shall be imprisoned unless charged with some crime or offense.

The Chairman, Mr. PHELPS, said the amendment was in order.

Mr. JONES (Tenn.) appealed from the decision of the Chair, remarking that the House, in this bill, could not control the Judiciary of the District of Columbia.

Mr. GIDDINGS said the bill provides for an efficient police force for the maintenance of order, and for the protection of persons and property. If anything was more appropriate than his amendment to secure this end, he was unable to suggest it.

The question was then taken, and the decision of the Chair sustained, by a vote of 73 against 60.

Mr. GIDDINGS said there was a law in existence providing for the imprisonment of free men of color found in this District. Messrs. Virginia and other colored men were now in jail for life. His object was to set aside every law which involves in slavery men now free. All he asked was a adjournment in session of the House.

Mr. HAMILTON was opposed to the amendment. It had nothing to do with the law. He hoped, however, a vote would now be taken on it.

Tellers were then appointed.

A voice.—Let the Abolitionists go through.

Mr. GIDDINGS.—And let the slaveholders stay back. [Laughter.]

The amendment was rejected—ayes 35; noes not counted.

The Senate bill, to suppress the circulation of small notes as currency in the District, being under consideration.

Mr. McMULLEN presented a remonstrance from Rev. Latham, Jr., and other citizens, against the bill, and asking for the passage of a free banking law. He said he was opposed to such a circulation anywhere, but doubted the policy of the passage of the bill at this time, owing to the embarrassed financial condition of the country.

Mr. CASKIE said that in his town (Richmond) the law acted like a charm. The worthless small notes had been banished from their midst. And there was plenty of gold and silver for ordinary business transactions.

Mr. HAMILTON testified in a like way regarding the Maryland small-note law.

Mr. FLORENCE said the Small Note law had precisely the same effect in Pennsylvania as in Mr. Caskie's district, Virginia. Pennell had taken the place of rage. He remarked, the remonstrance presented by Mr. McMullen, was signed by R. W. Latham, who had become notorious through the failure of the Exchange Bank, with which he had been connected. He desired to protect the workmen from losses sustained by "ship-plaster" issues; for, on the poor classes, such disasters universally fall.